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THE FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB OF VICTORIA.

THE fifth annual meeting of this Club was held at the Royal Society's Hall, on Monday evening, 11th May, 1885.

The president, the Rev. J. J. Halley, occupied the chair, and about seventy members and visitors were present.

Letters were read from Mr. Joseph Mack, Lismore; Mr. Jno. Box, Malvern; and Mr. M. Herdman, Experimental Farm, Cashel; in favor of the Club's suggestions *re* Native Birds.

The hon. librarian reported the receipt of the following additions to the library:—"Prodrum of Zoology of Victoria," Decade X; "Bulletin of the Imperial Society of Naturalists, Moscow," 1884; "Annual Report, Ballarat School of Mines," 1884; "Annual Report, Bendigo School of Mines," 1884; "Southern Science Record," No. 4.

The hon. sec. reported that the monthly excursion held on the previous Saturday at Red Bluff was well attended, considering the threatening state of the weather, the most interesting item noted was the occurrence of the orchid *Pterostylis vittata* in bloom.

The following were elected members of the Club—Miss Smith, Messrs Jno. Curtayne, H. W. Hunt, D. McAlpine, E. Nicolson, J. E. Sherrard, J. Sims, Wm. Strachan, Alex. Wilson, Jno. Wilson, Alfd. Wyatt, and Masters W. H. and G. E. Hill.

Mr. F. R. Godfrey promised a paper on "Surface Shells" for a future meeting.

Mr. D. Best, in accordance with notice, moved that the number of members of Committee be increased to seven, seconded by Mr. A. H. S. Lucas, and carried.

The hon. secretary read the annual report and balance sheet, which showed the Club to be in a flourishing condition. Amongst other suggestions made, was that of holding a wild flower show during the coming spring, which found much favor among those present.

The following office-bearers were elected without opposition:— President, Rev. J. J. Halley, Vice-Presidents, Mr. T. A. Forbes-Leith and Mr. A. H. S. Lucas, M.A.; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. E. Bage; Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. French; Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. G. A. Barnard; and Assistant Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. Coghill.

The ballot for members of Committee resulted as follows— Mrs. Dobson, Mrs. J. Simson, Messrs D. Best, J. H. Gatliff, G. R. Hill, D. LeSouëf, and C. A. Topp, M.A.

A vote of thanks to the retiring office-bearers was carried unanimsously.

Mr. C. A. Topp mentioned that two mosses recently found by Mr. Tisdall, of Walhalla, had proved to be new to science, and had been named after the finder and the locality respectively.

The following were the principal exhibits:—By Mr. D. Best, a box of Fijian insects; by Mr. G. Coghill, orchids in bloom, *Pterostylis vittata*, and *P. præcox*; by Mr. P. Dattari, orchids in bloom, *P. nana* and *P. scabrida*, from Brighton, also Mexican ferns, *Cheilanthes farinosa* and *Pteris nemoralis*; by Mr. E. A. Dombraïn, nests of weaver-bird, from Elephanta Island, also two snake-skins; by Mr. C. French, exotic Coleoptera, section *Cetonidæ*; by Master C. French, land shells; by Master R. Hall, Victorian birds' eggs, and South Australian insects; by Masters W. H. and G. E. Hill, each a case of moths collected since last meeting; by Mr. T. Hyland, eggs collected around Colac last season; by Mr. H. Kennon, Nautilus Shells from Brighton, said by Professor McCoy to be the most perfect specimens yet found; by Mr. T. A. Forbes-Leith, podargus, *P. strigoides*, from N. W. Victoria, also from Yan Yean, boo-book owl, *Strix ninox*, from Werribee, and banded stilt, *Cladorynchus pectoralis*, from Murray River; by Mr. A. H. S. Lucas, silver-fish, having abnormal caudal fin, with bifid inferior lobe; by Mr. H. W. Milligan, three squirrels, and twenty species of birds from Lillydale; by Mr. F. Reader, plants from Studley Park, *Asperifoleæ-Epacrideæ*; by Mr. J. F. Roberts, new exotic orchid, *Phalænopsis Robertsiana*.

After the usual *conversazione* the meeting terminated.

SUCCINCT NOTES ON SOME PLANTS FROM NEW GUINEA.

BY BARON FERD. VON MUELLER, K.C.M.G., M.D., Ph.D., F.R.S

(Continued.)

Cycas Scratchleyana.—Leaves glabrous; their segments chartaceous, flat, rather broad, shining on both sides, hardly or not paler